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Spirit of Girls event a huge success

By Shelby Macri
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HOLYOKE – The Girls Inc. of the Valley held a virtual event for the Spirit of Girls Spring 2021 on Thursday, May 6, where many female leaders spoke.

Speakers for the spring event included Senator Elizabeth Warren, former NASA Astronaut Dr. Cady Coleman, Mount Holyoke College Leadership Fellow and Political Figure Carmen Yulín Cruz, Actress Tequilla Whitfield, Girls Inc. President and CEO Dr. Stephanie Hull, and hosted by WWLP week-night Anchor Ciara Speller. These guest speakers spoke about women leaders and the influence of girls seeing women in power and public seats. The theme of the event was to celebrate ‘Her Place at the Table’ which is a phrase that is used to reference those with power and influence. Speller explains that the girls in Girls Inc. are able to take seats at very important tables.

The headquarters of Girls Inc. of the Valley is located in Holyoke and the mission of Girls Inc. is to inspire girls to be strong, smart, and bold. A mission that was proven to be successful when mem-

See GIRLS, page 3



Girls Inc. spring fundraiser speakers including Senator Elizabeth Warren, Kourtney and Maya Senquiz, Isha Rivera, Janine Fondon, Janira Portorreal, Carmen Yulín, Ciara Speller, Stephanie Hull, Cady Coleman, Emmalene Pirnie, Tequilla Whitfield, Lyric Dixon, Nikai Fondon, and Kaitlyn Jenco - Photos provided by Girls Inc.

Submitted photo

City to receive visits from vaccine bus

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – With the vaccine effort starting to slow down and mass vaccination sites converting to accept walk-up appointments, Tufts-Harvard Pilgrim Health is rolling out another alternative and Holyoke is part of the tour.

A vaccine bus will be rolling through Chicopee and Holyoke during the next week weeks with the hope of giving up to 300 vaccines per day and to vaccinate more than 20,000 people through the next couple of months.

The bus is touring through other cities as well, but is targeting urban areas that have both been hard hit by the coronavirus, and for people with limited access to transportation to get a mass vaccination site.

Mass vaccination sites are starting to slow down with traffic, and new mass sites have opened up. Holyoke residents are especially being encouraged to utilize a site at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee. There is also a site now open at the Eastern States

See VACCINE, page 8

KNIGHTS BASEBALL RETURNS



Holyoke High School pitcher Anthony Rosado Burgos throws last Thursday at Ludlow. He threw a five-inning no-hitter against the Lions. More photos on page 7.

Photo by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Blue Sox set to receive new lease from city

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Pending full city council approval, the Valley Blue Sox will continue to call Holyoke home after the council’s Finance Committee recommended approving a new lease between the team and the city.

The Blue Sox have been one of the best recreational attractions to the city in the last decade, drawing out tons of fans from the city and the surrounding area to its 22 games held at Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke.

The lease includes a \$10,000 fee to use the field at Mackenzie, which is located next to Holyoke High School. There are currently 22 home games schedule and potentially games at home for the playoffs. There are 14 teams in the league and the schedule this year features the Blue Sox playing mostly the teams in their own division to limit travel due to the current COVID-19 concerns.

Finance Committee Chairman Joseph McGiverin

said Monday night the season is a go, however, and the Blue Sox will be playing in front a limited capacity. That capacity could change as the season goes on while Massachusetts goes through the next steps of Phase 4. Fenway Park in Boston is currently playing with a 25 percent capacity, or about 10,000 fans. The Blue Sox will work with the Holyoke Board of Health to ensure all proper protocols are followed for players, coaches, officials, and fans who attend games.

The Blue Sox are known for their theme nights and promotions, though it is unclear if events like that will be able to happen for this year due to restrictions.

The Blue Sox have also received a \$1,000 rebate from Holyoke Gas & Electric for its use of the lights at the field. Many of the games held there are played under the lights.

The Blue Sox were NECBL champions in 2017 and 2018. They made it to the Division finals in 2019 and the 2020 season was can-

celled due to the pandemic.

The Blue Sox are part of the New England Collegiate Baseball League, a league which features the best college players in the country and is often a place where they are able to extend their playing time past the traditional college spring season. It also is another place where the talent is showcased and scouted by Major League Baseball teams.

Several former members of the Valley Blue Sox have gone on to play in the majors, with one of the most prominent recent stars being Trey Mancini. Mancini played first base for the Blue Sox and was an all-star. He now is a regular starter for the Baltimore Orioles and recently went through a bout with cancer.



Local bike shop celebrates 75 years of business

By Shelby Macri
smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The Highland Hardware and Bike Shop hosted under True Value has seen many changes and additions over the years, changes they can look back on while celebrating their 75 years of business.

Owner Harry Craven was in the business since its beginning, though he admits he was only one-year old at the time. His parents started the shop in April 1946, where they were originally located across the street and they sold gifts, little trinkets, dolls, stuffed animals, and ribbons amongst other small things one would find in a trinket shop at that time.

Craven explained that his father wanted to appeal to anyone and everyone who visited the shop, and started to order specific things for those who asked. He said the store started its hardware section with one shovel.

A customer asked for a shovel one day and Craven's father told them to come back to the store either later that day or the next day to pick up the shovel; when he ordered the shovel he ordered two, one for the customer and one for the store. His father continued ordering items this way to stock his store, eventually making a partnership with Jay Russel and Co. a popular hardware supplier at the time. Over the years that company was bought out by others, finally becoming True Value which is what Highland Hardware and Bike Shop is currently under.

The shop starting selling small toys in the same way as they partnered with a parent company for board games, mod-



The outside of the store has many windows to show the products they offer, a storefront that many people may know just from taking Hampden Street regularly.

els, books, teddy bears and more. Which helped them as more stores selling the same things popped up, their toys were a best seller especially during Christmas time as those sales would hold them over. Eventually a traveling salesman visited their store and that's how they started selling bikes as well. After a large toy store entered the neighborhood, they stuck to just hardware and bikes, now offering a large section of both. The store moved sides of the street in 1956 and in 1986 they bought the building they're currently in which was a supermarket beforehand. The building is large and offers plenty of storage space for extra

products and floor space for people to shop through. The large outdoor goods section is separated from the main space by two large, wooden sliding doors, where people can find fertilizer, grass seed, lawn ornaments, pool needs, grills, and anything else a homeowner may need for their outdoor space.

The business has focused around family as Craven, his siblings, and aunts and uncles helped out in the store. The business has been passed down to him, and his son and daughter currently work as employees today. Sometimes his nieces, nephews, and cousins will come in to work part time before moving on to



Owner Harry Craven personally helps customers who visit Highland Hardware and Bike shop.
Photos by Shelby Macri

other things. The shop was considered essential during the pandemic as it offers hardware and home needs, so during the quarantine and the rest of the pandemic the shop has kept its regular customers and has gained a few new and loyal customers. While the hours of the store have been shortened due to the pandemic their sales are still doing well with attractions like grills and bikes pulling people in throughout the summer.

Many may be familiar with the outside storefront of the shop as it's lived on Hampden Street for its 75 years,

See BIKE, page 3

Vacuna contra el COVID-19: Segura y Eficaz

La Vacuna contra el COVID-19 se desarrolló de forma segura.



Para crear la vacuna contra el COVID, se siguieron las mismas medidas de seguridad que se usan para todas las otras vacunas.



Miles de personas participaron en los ensayos clínicos para demostrar que la vacuna es segura y eficaz.

La Vacuna pudo desarrollarse rápidamente porque:



Cuando comenzó la pandemia, los científicos ya habían estudiado otros virus similares durante más de 20 años, y eso les dio una ventaja inicial para crear esta vacuna.



Las compañías comenzaron a producir la vacuna con anticipación para garantizar su distribución inmediata después de la aprobación.

Únase a los millones de personas que ya se han vacunado.



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La **VACUNA SALVA VIDAS**



WSU to offer SAT Online Summer Institute

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University will offer multiple sessions of its SAT Online Summer Institute for high school students, starting June 14.

In partnership with Educational Testing Consultants Inc., the SAT Online Summer Institute provides 20 hours of live, online instruction offered in multiple formats, including a condensed two-week session. Multiple sessions will be held, making it convenient for students to choose the

See SAT, page 6

Options presented for funding capital needs

HOLYOKE – The days of the city having to stumble into overpaying to replace broken vehicles and buildings could be over thanks to a proposal to create a Capital Stabilization Fund from mayoral candidate Rebecca Lisi.

The City Council Finance Committee on Monday, May 10, 2021 began discussing a capital planning order filed by Lisi, a city councilor at large.

Lisi’s Capital Stabilization Fund would establish a dedicated fund to ensure that the city can cover the expenses associated with replacing vehicles and fixing buildings and other facilities with a regularity that will avoid costly repairs caused by waiting too long.

Up to now, lack of planning has relegated the city to lurching from one capital need to another.

Such lack of foresight can lead to the city being forced to pay a ton to fix a truck or building that should have been replaced or repaired years ago.

The city has had to scurry to replace relics of police cruisers, fire engines and public works trucks that were kept in service well beyond their useful life.

This failure to plan jeopardizes employees’ safety and hinders the services that taxpayers depend on and have paid for.

No more.

“A capital stabilization fund and capital investment plan will help us maintain high quality service delivery with predictable purchases and maintenance of our service vehicle fleets, equipment and building conditions,” Lisi said.

Three existing parts of the city budget have been identified as sources that could seed the Capital Stabilization Fund, Lisi said:

1. A one-time transfer from the Emergency Stabilization, or rainy-day, fund.
2. A transfer from free cash. That’s money that the Massachusetts Department of Revenue certifies is available to a municipality in funds that went unspent in accounts from the previous fiscal year.
3. Money will soon become available after the city pays off debts.

The Finance Committee will resume discussion of the Capital Stabilization Fund at a future meeting, said Lisi, chairwoman of the City Council Ordinance Committee.

DCF seeks volunteers

REGION – Volunteers are needed from Western Massachusetts to help review cases involving children who are placed in the custody of the state.

The Foster Care Review Unit makes decisions regarding children who are placed in foster care for six months or longer, assessing how well their needs are being met and what progress has been made toward establishing them in a permanent living situation. A Volunteer from the Community is one

member of the three-person panels that make these decisions.

Foster Care Reviews typically last 30 to 90 minutes and are being conducted remotely during the pandemic. Volunteers need to be 18 years or older and must participate in pre-service training that is currently being conducted remotely. For an application and further information, please contact Lashanda Stone at Lashanda.Stone@Mass.Gov.

BIKE, from page 2

those who haven’t been inside but need home, lawn, and hardware goods are more than welcome and encouraged to

give the store a look.

The bike shop offers replacement parts, helmets, and other bike needs, so if you’re not looking for a full bike but you need repairs, visit the Highland Hardware and Bike Shop.

GIRLS, from page 1

bers of Girls Inc. of the Valley spoke during the virtual event. Girls Inc. of the Valley girl Janira Portorreal spoke about her experience in Girls of the Valley, as she’s been a member for five years coming to six years this summer.

A senior at Chicopee High School, Portorreal spoke about how being in Girls of the Valley has influenced her.

“I use my voice to advocate for myself and for others,” Portorreal said. “From leadership roles that I was able to participate in with Girls Inc. actually; was I interviewed Joyce Roche who was the former CEO of Girl Inc., so that was very big for me.”

Portorreal continued that being a part of Girls Inc. has helped her to gain confidence and other qualities since see joined in seventh grade, saying that she was shy and timid and didn’t know how to use her voice. Whereas now as a senior in high school she feels that she can talk in front of people and get her point across from the experiences she received in Girls Inc. of the Valley. Other Girls Inc. members spoke from new members who joined in January like Lily and Mikayla Harris as well as older members like Portorreal and Isha Rivera who have been a part of the program for five years.

speakers included President and CEO Hull who spoke about Girls Inc. focusing an helping girls grow and achieve their potential.

“I know women had to fight hard to get a seat at that table and I think the best thing we can do now is just to scoot over a little bit and make sure that girls have an easier time getting a seat at the table,” Hull said. “I think it’s important for us to let them make their priorities known and have their voices be heard.”

She said that women and girls are the future; she feels women leaders can

benefit from getting girls perspectives while they’re still leaders and to make sure to incorporate girls views and their priorities and work together with them as they lead today.

Whitfield joined the virtual event to tell her story of claiming her seat at the table.

“I am so humble and so grateful to be here as we all celebrate our place at the table, when I think about my seat at the table I immediately think of purpose,” Whitfield said. “How important it is to walk boldly and proudly in your truth and your purpose. When people ask me how did I get started into acting, I always say that acting came to me I didn’t come to it.” She continues to say acting did everything in its power to find her, it needed her to articulate the purpose and she’s just happy she was prepared for it.

Known for her role in Hidden Figures she speaks about the role and story the movie where the three main characters; based on real women, know their purpose and talents so when the opportunity presented itself they were prepared and ready to make an impactful change in history.

Whitfield said we, girls and women everywhere, will continue celebrate them and their legacy and asks girls to live truthfully and body into their purpose. Girls Inc. is dedicated to helping girls reach their potential, become leaders, and follow their purpose and dream. Girls Inc. is a non-profit organization that typically holds these events to help fundraise for the program, during this years fundraising event they were able to raise \$65,000 for the program. People can continue to contribute on the Girls Inc. website at <https://girlsinc.org>, additionally people can view this years spring event on YouTube by searching for Spirit of Girls Spring 2021 Celebrating Her Place at the Table.

House earmarks \$50K for new manufacturing program at HCC

HOLYOKE – Rep. Patricia Duffy (D – Holyoke) is pleased to announce that \$50,000 has been earmarked in the House Fiscal Year 2022 budget to seed the development and implementation of a new Manufacturing Training Program at Holyoke Community College.



Patricia Duffy

“Holyoke employers need a trained workforce and Holyoke constituents need career-track jobs,” said Duffy. “I’m thrilled to see these local assets of our population and our historical manufacturing base come together and build on each other.”

According to labor and workforce date, 9.7% of jobs in Holyoke are in manufacturing compared to 6.7% statewide. Meanwhile, at 9.9 percent, the unemployment rate in Holyoke is the second highest in western Massachusetts after Springfield at 11.2 percent, compared to a statewide rate of 6.6 percent for March 2021.

The Manufacturing Training Program will join the robust stable of workforce development programs at HCC, Duffy said.

“We’re grateful to Rep. Duffy for advocating for this funding on behalf of the college,” said President Christina Royal. “Manufacturing is an important employment sector in Holyoke and one with deep historical roots. Despite the city’s high unemployment rate, a significant number of manufacturing jobs in Holyoke remain vacant. The purpose of this new program is to increase the num-

ber of Holyoke residents working in manufacturing, especially those impacted by poverty, unemployment, and limited educational opportunities.”

The program will serve up to 45 individuals in three cohorts by providing approximately 150 hours of remote and in-person, hands-on training combined with workplace experiential learning.

The three-phase program includes: skills assessments, and pre-training focused on workplace readiness in English and basic math, followed by core training in entry-level manufacturing.

The manufacturing component will include modules in communication, teamwork, customer service, digital literacy, general manufacturing processes and principles; blueprints, dimensions, tolerances, instrumentation and measuring; manufacturing workplace math; lean manufacturing, problem-solving, quality control; and workplace safety.

Regional employers will be invited to participate in curriculum design and delivery, as guest speakers, as well as in hosting tours of their facilities when possible. Participants will be connected to area employers and receive job placement assistance through HCC and MassHire Holyoke.

“We believe the program will benefit jobseekers, incumbent workers, and businesses of Holyoke and the region alike,” Royal said. “Ultimately, the goal is to help lift individuals out of poverty and meet the needs of the business community.”

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Poetry Corner

New England Sky

by Thomas J. Kennedy

The sky in New England
So creative
As it kisses the green Earth
As it is so symbiotic
With the waving tree tops.

The colors move by
As a parade of art.

The sky only in New England
Totally immersed
As the Earth and sky become one.

Yes indeed . . .

The sky in New England
So caressing creative
As it kisses the green Earth.



Guest Column

Long awaited flowers for the wisteria

I was out shopping at one of the largest garden centers I have ever been to yesterday, and was tempted to buy a wisteria (along with a hundred other plants). My good friend is always talking about how pretty hers is and with an occasional picture sent my way, she is sure being modest. Her specimen is beyond pretty, more like gorgeous! I tried to remember back to the one we had growing at Old Sturbridge Village, long since gone now, but luckily I had written the following column, which gives some great advice for first-time wisteria owners, especially those who are waiting for theirs to bloom. Read on!

The wisteria was planted eight long years ago. Although the vines have overtaken the pergola beside which it was installed, there has never been a single flower...until this year! Finally, a handful of lavender-purple blossoms hang like bunches of grapes from the top of the structure. If I hadn't glanced up I probably would have missed this first effort entirely. I can only imagine how, in just a few more years, the show will be so breathtaking that everyone passing by will remark at its beauty.

There are two species of wisteria commonly grown by gardeners: Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*) and Japanese wisteria (*W. floribunda*). Their twining vines are vigorous with a capital "V," quite capable of growing 25 or more feet tall. Wisteria are valued mostly for their purple toned or white flowers, which, as mentioned, hang in pendulant

clusters in mid to late May, arriving just as the foliage is unfurling. The flowers are fragrant, and pea-like, accounting for the fact that plant is a member of the pea family. In addition to it being vigorous and pretty when in flower, the wisteria is hardy and long-lived. If there are Victorian era homes in your town, no doubt one or more will still sport a wisteria trailing over the front porch. Examine an old specimen up close and you will notice a gnarled, twisted trunk several inches in diameter. Sometimes, with careful pruning, the vine can take on a self-supporting tree-like form.

Wisteria has the reputation of taking notoriously long to flower. Plants started from seed reportedly won't do so for 10 to 15 years! Those grown from cuttings, layers from the mother plant, or those that are grafted will bloom somewhat sooner, usually in seven to 10 seasons. To encourage early and dependable flowers, be sure to plant wisteria in full sun. Six hours of direct sunlight each day is necessary. Deep, fertile soil that is neutral to slightly acidic (pH 6-7) will grow the healthiest plants. Start off with a planting hole at least 24 to 36 inches in diameter and 18 to 24 inches deep, amending it with one-third its volume in compost, peat moss or well-rotted manure.

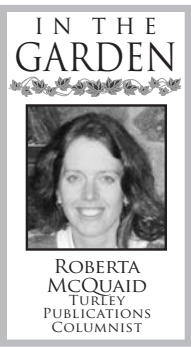
Wisteria also has the reputation of being able to "leap small buildings in a single bound," and topple the weaker ones to the ground! Be prepared by having a strong vertical support in place prior to planting the

vine. Trellises, pergolas or arbors will all suffice. Other, solid surfaces can be mounted with rows of copper wire for the vines to twine on. The copper won't rust and it will disappear among the plant material as it ages. Plant wisteria no deeper than it was growing in the pot from the nursery, unless it was grafted, then the graft union should be planted just under the surface of the soil. Water well after planting and throughout the first season of growth. A well-balanced fertilizer can be added annually.

Once the vine is well established, fertilize only if deficiencies are evident, and water only upon wilting. By discouraging vegetative growth, flower production will be encouraged. If numerous years have gone by and still there are no flowers, a heaping application of phosphorous in the form of superphosphate (0-20-0) may help. You can also try pruning back new growth severely in late spring or early summer. If that doesn't stimulate flowers the following season, try root pruning in late fall to "check" vegetative top growth. This is done by simply cutting into the soil with a spade four feet from the trunk to a depth of about 18 inches.

Sure, it may take awhile for wisteria to flower, but believe me, it is worth the wait!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



ROBERTA MCQUAID
TURLEY
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COLUMNIST

Will taking 401K distributions affect my Social Security benefit?

By Russell Gloor

SOCIAL
SECURITY
MATTERS

Dear Rusty: I'm 63 and retired from work, but not drawing Social Security. I have accumulated just over \$300,000 in my rollover 401K IRA. My wife is still working full time, so we have medical, dental and vision coverage. I have a few questions:

1) When I take IRA distributions throughout the year, do those dollar amounts get reported to Social Security as income?

2) If not, will my Social Security benefit change (will I be penalized?) for not working and having zero income as I continue to withdraw investments and show no income?

3) If my benefit will drop because of the last few years of no income, would it be advisable to start drawing Social Security now? Signed: Planning Ahead

Dear Planning Ahead: Whenever you decide to claim Social Security, they will compute your benefit amount from your lifetime earnings history. They will adjust your earnings for inflation in all years prior to the year you turned 60, find the 35 years in which you had the highest (inflation-adjusted) earnings, and use that "average

indexed monthly earnings" (AIME) amount to determine your Primary Insurance Amount (PIA), which is your benefit entitlement at your full retirement age (FRA).

From there, your age when you claim determines your final Social Security payment amount. Born in 1958, your FRA is 66 plus 8 months, and that is the age at which you will get 100% of your PIA. If you claim benefits before your FRA, your payment will be reduced; and if you wait until after your FRA to claim, your benefit will be increased. If you wait until you are 70 to claim, your Social Security payment will reach maximum (about 27% more than your FRA benefit amount). Now, to your specific questions:

1) Distributions taken from your 401k or IRA are not reported to Social Security as "earnings" and do not count toward your Social Security benefit entitlement.

2) If you have already retired from working, having zero earnings now won't further affect your final Social Security payment amount because your benefit will be based upon your 35 highest-earning years. However, if you have a recent benefit estimate from Social Security, that estimate

assumed that you would continue to earn at the same level you most recently reported to the IRS until you reached your FRA. So, if you got the estimate while you were still working (or shortly thereafter), the estimate is higher than your actual benefit will be. If you received the estimate a year or more after you stopped working, the estimate is more accurate. In any case, your 401K withdrawals will not count as Social Security earnings.

3) Claiming now would result in a permanently reduced Social Security benefit amount because you haven't yet reached your full retirement age. But claiming now wouldn't be a hedge against your current lack of earnings, because your benefit will be based upon the highest earning 35 years over your lifetime.

If you don't already have a full 35 years of Social Security-covered earnings they will still use 35 years in the benefit calculation, adding \$0 earnings for enough years to make it 35. If that is the case, you could offset some of those zero years in your lifetime history by returning to work now, thus increas-

See SECURITY, page 5



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A Quote

OF NOTE

"Be wiser than
other people
if you can.
Do not
tell them so.
All human beings,
by nature,
desire to know."

Benjamin Franklin

Letters to the
Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

SECURITY, from page 4

ing your benefit when you claim. If you already have at least 35 years of earnings, enjoy your retirement!

One last thing to consider: if you predecease your wife, at her FRA she will be entitled to 100% of the benefit you were receiving at your death (if that is more than her own). In other words, when you claim your benefit will affect the amount your wife can get as your widow. The longer you wait to claim, the higher your wife's survivor benefit from you will be.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit the website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email to ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

City receives \$100K for recycling, waste reduction

BOSTON – The Baker-Polito Administration today awarded \$1.3 million in grant funding to 34 communities, regional groups and non-profit organizations through the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP). The grants will help to increase diversion, reuse, composting and recycling of materials in the solid waste stream.

“Supporting and encouraging the proactive environmental protection efforts happening at the local level is one of the most effective measures we can take to reduce waste in cities and towns across the Commonwealth,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “By reducing the waste stream with a combination of recycling, diversion and materials re-use, we are able to work closely with our municipal partners to improve the health of communities throughout Massachusetts.”

“Communities and their residents want to help protect the environment by recycling as much material as possible,” said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. “With this critical investment in local recycling efforts, our administration is proud to help communities become more sustainable and to achieve their waste

reduction goals.”

The SMRP, created under the Green Communities Act and administered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), offers funding for recycling, composting, reuse and source reduction activities that will reduce the amount of waste disposed of in landfills and incinerators. Waste prevention and recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions by capturing the embodied energy in every-day product and packaging waste and converting these sources into new products with a smaller carbon footprint.

“The Commonwealth has set ambitious goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste reduction is one of the ways to meet those goals and protect our natural resources,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. “By partnering with cities and towns to encourage recycling, we will continue to reduce harmful emissions, create local jobs, and stimulate the economy.”

MassDEP awarded funds in several categories, including start-up incentives for Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) programs, wheeled-carts for curbside collection of recyclables, large containers for collection of target materials at municipal transfer stations, school recycling assistance programs and innovative waste reduction projects.

“MassDEP continues to work with our community partners to capture more materials that can be reused and recycled, reducing the waste stream,” said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. “These grants will help provide new bins or carts, increase educational outreach efforts and expand recycling

programs to under-served community sectors.”

A mattress recycling incentive grant, now in its sixth year, has been awarded to 19 communities across the state. The grants will pay for the cost of recycling residential mattresses that are collected and recycled by one of four mattress recycling companies on Massachusetts state contract. About 75 percent of a mattress's components are recyclable. Recycling is a preferred management method since mattresses are bulky and costly to dispose of in landfills and incinerators. MassDEP has allocated up to \$438,000 to pay for recycling of mattresses in the coming year and expects the increased supply will help drive a stronger recycling market.

Two municipalities, Holyoke and Marlborough, were awarded grants (\$100,000 and \$85,000 respectively), to set up regional glass processing operations. Glass bottles and jars will be crushed into a construction product known as Processed Glass Aggregate, which is used for pipe drainage and other subsurface public works construction applications.

More Than Words (MTW), a Boston-based non-profit social enterprise that operates youth job training programs, was awarded \$65,000 to expand their textile donation and recovery program. MTW partners with dozens of greater Boston municipalities to collect donated books and textiles for reuse and recovery.

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Sun, please email thesun@turley.com.

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SAT, from page 3

time and format that works best for them to study and develop the essential test-taking skills needed to do well on the exam. Students receive an in-depth review of the exam content, strategies for improving their scores, and a comprehensive study plan.

The cost of the SAT Online Summer Institute is \$499, which includes all books and materials as well as access to online resources through the end of the year. For more information, contact Brandon Fredette at bfredette@westfield.ma.edu or 413-572-8033. To register online for any of the available sessions, visit www.westfield.ma.edu/testprep.



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Bridge loan secured
for Hampden Papers

HOLYOKE – Kennedy Funding (kennedyfunding.com), one of the leading direct private lenders in the United States, announced today that it has closed a \$1.3 million loan to Hampden Papers, Inc.

Proceeds from the bridge loan will be used as working capital for the borrower’s property, located at 100 Water Street in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Funds will be used to complete payments due for Hampden Paper’s prior business operations; the business was sold to a Louisville, Kentucky-based company in 2020. Proceeds will also be used toward the continued costs to maintain the 5.611-acre property, which is zoned for industrial use.

“As Hampden Papers, Inc. enters the final phase of its operations, the bridge loan we provided can help them wind down and close this chapter,” said Kevin Wolfer, CEO, Kennedy Funding, adding that the direct lender was able to secure a low 9% interest rate for the borrower.

Wolfer said that three of the five buildings are under contract to sell to a cannabis company for \$3.55 million.



Kevin Wolfer

“Knowing that the former Hampden Papers site was soon to be sold, we were able to quickly review and approve this loan application so the borrower could access the funding necessary to prepare for the sale. The current value of the properties, together with the pending sale, enabled us to offer a very attractive rate, despite the lack of a structural engineer

report,” he said.

The former Hampden Papers site is located close to major thoroughfares, including Interstates 391 and 91 and U.S. Routes 5 and 202. These highways allow for easy access to nearby major cities, like Springfield, Massachusetts, and Hartford, Connecticut.

“The opportunity is ripe for the next business or businesses that calls 100 Water Street home,” Wolfer said. “With plenty of warehouse space, truck bays, and office space for employees, each building offers plenty of room to meet the requirements of a commercial enterprise that wants to establish itself or grow its business in western Massachusetts.”

Spaces available for lifeguard courses

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department is holding American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification and Re-Certification Classes.

Lifeguard Certification Class

• Classes will be held on May 22 & June 5

• Classes will run from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

• 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ~ Class will be held at the War Memorial Building for CPR/First Aid Instruction

• 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. ~ Class will be held at the Holyoke High School Swimming Pool for Lifeguard Training

• All participants must be 16 years old

• Must pass a pre-skills test at the start of class

• \$150 for Holyoke Residents

• \$225 for non-residents

• Participants only need to attend one class

Lifeguard
Re-Certification Class

• Classes will be held on May 22 & June 5

• Classes will run from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

• Update your skills while also extending your certification for another two years

• 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Class will be held at the War Memorial Building for CPR/First Aid Instruction

• 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Class will be held at the Holyoke High School Swimming Pool for Lifeguard Training

• \$100 for Holyoke Residents

• \$200 for non-residents

• Participants only need to attend one class

Participants must register and be paid in full before attending the class. Please register at the Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department, 413-322-5620. Limited space available.

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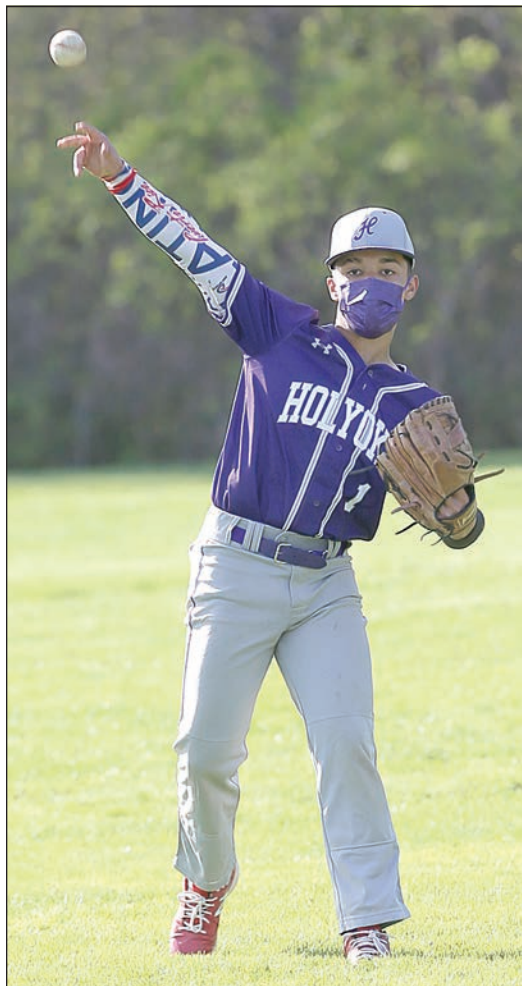
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Anibel Diaz Ofray fires a ball back from the outfield.



Felix Gutierrez fires a throw to first.

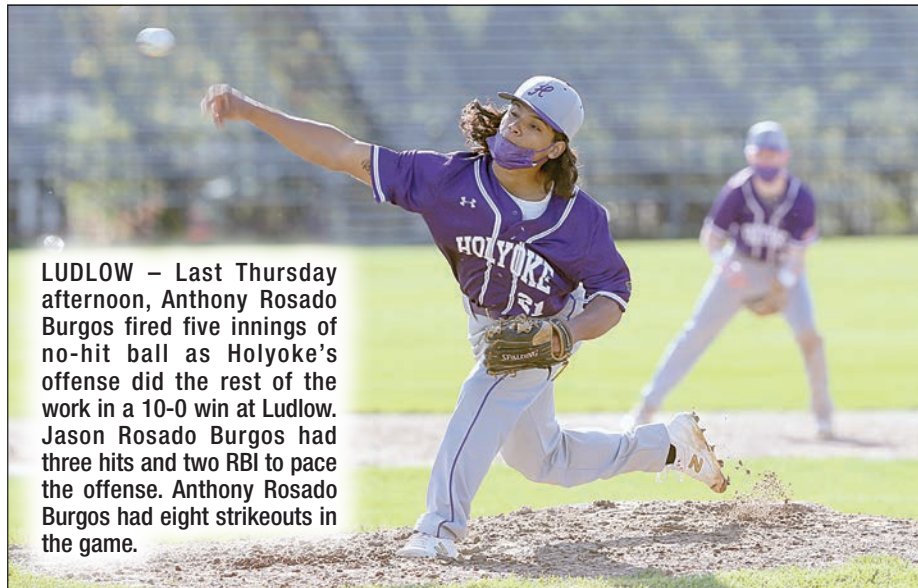


Eliezer Rosario Lebron slings a throw across the diamond.



Catcher Jason Rosado Burgos frames up a pitch.

Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



LUDLOW – Last Thursday afternoon, Anthony Rosado Burgos fired five innings of no-hit ball as Holyoke's offense did the rest of the work in a 10-0 win at Ludlow. Jason Rosado Burgos had three hits and two RBI to pace the offense. Anthony Rosado Burgos had eight strikeouts in the game.

Pitcher Anthony Rosado Burgos tosses during the fourth inning.

Kruczek picks up win at Star Speedway

WALPOLE, N.H. – Bryan Kruczek passed the entire field -- at least twice -- en route to his first career Granite State Pro Stock Series win at Star Speedway on Saturday, May 8. Kruczek, who was fastest in time trials and won his heat race, started seventh -- but had to go to the rear on at least two different occasions. The Bobby Webber Racing driver didn't let that slow him down, as he took the Vynorius No. 19 into Victory Lane in the third GSPSS race of the season, the Hedges Excavating 100.

"I'm out of breath," Kruczek said, climbing from the car. "I had to pass a lot of cars out there. I can't thank all of my

guys enough, my guys are second to none. Bobby Webber lets me come out here and tells me to hand him the steering wheel or the trophy. We have some awesome sponsors."

Angelo Belsito and Joey Pole started on the front row -- with Belisto taking the early advantage looking for his second straight win, and former series champion Devin O'Connell mounting an early charge to the lead with 33 laps complete. Pole took the lead on a restart with 58 laps to go, but couldn't hold back the charges of Kruczek in the late laps.

Kruczek's day included contact and a spin by Jacob Dore, which sent both to the

rear, and contact and a spin with Evan Beaulieu, which sent both to the rear. He pitted multiple times to the attention of his Bobby Webber Racing crew, but the car was right at the end. He passed Pole for the top spot with 24 laps to go -- however, a caution late gave Pole on last chance.

Pole edged out for the lead on the restart, crossing the line out front at lap 94 -- but slight contact a few laps later sent him backwards, and eventually spinning down the frontstretch, ending his day early. Kruczek held off a final charge from Josh King over the final laps to seal

See RACING, page 8

Pioneers return to action

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – When Maxi Viera first joined the Western Mass. Pioneers back in 2012, he knew very little about the history of the club and about historic Lusitano Stadium.

Viera, who's originally from Montevideo, Uruguay, is one of the Pioneers veteran players on this year's team. He likes to tell the younger players how special it is to wear a Pioneers uniform and what it means to play home matches at the only soccer specific stadium in New England.

"Playing soccer matches

at this stadium is very special because of the history," Viera said. "It's also very important for us to have a successful season every year because we're representing both the club and this community."

The Pioneers, who finished in first place in the Northeast Division standings with an 11-0-3 mark, qualified for the USL League Two playoffs in 2019. They kicked off the 2021 campaign by posting a 3-0 shut-out win over Fall River FC in a friendly match held under the bright lights at Lusitano Stadium, last Friday night.

See PIONEERS, page 9

Premier Lacrosse League training camp to be held at Gillette

FOXBOROUGH – The Premier Lacrosse League (PLL) powered by Ticketmaster announced today it will be holding their 2021 Training Camp at Gillette Stadium from May 28 through June 3, 2021 leading up to their Week 1 matchups at Gillette Stadium.

“There’s not a venue as closely connected to lacrosse, with world-class facilities and amenities like Gillette Stadium and One Patriot Place,” says co-founder and CEO, Mike Rabil. “With our opening weekend of games slated for June 4th, our athletes will receive the best care while preparing for the start of the season on location.”

During this time, PLL players will take part in official team practices, scrimmages, preseason workouts, film

sessions, and educational workshops with their coaches ahead of their regular season debuts. Training Camp will be closed to the public, but tickets are still available for Opening Weekend at Ticketmaster.com.

“We look forward to hosting the PLL’s Training Camp at Gillette Stadium for the first time this spring, in addition to hosting the league’s Opening Weekend,” said Kraft Group President-International Dan Kraft, who was a collegiate lacrosse goalie for Tufts University in the 1980s and served on the executive Board of the 2018 Federation of International Lacrosse’s World Championships Host Committee. “Hosting training camp is another important step in our strong

relationship with the PLL and we cannot wait to welcome the nation’s best lacrosse players, including former Patriot Chris Hogan, back to Gillette Stadium. While training camp will be closed to the public, we are excited to welcome fans to Gillette Stadium June 4 through June 6 to enjoy five riveting PLL matchups all weekend long.”

As part of PLL’s Training Camp, pre-season exhibition games will be hosted at Veterans Memorial Stadium on June 1. More information on schedule and tickets for pre-season exhibition games forthcoming.

The PLL season will begin at Gillette Stadium for the second time, getting underway with a prime-time matchup between Cannons LC

and Redwoods LC under the lights on Friday, June 4. Saturday’s slate includes a championship rematch between Whipsnakes LC and Chaos LC, followed by Archers LC taking on Atlas LC. On Sunday afternoon, Cannons LC will return to the field against Waterdogs LC, and the weekend will be capped off with a matchup between Chrome LC and Redwoods LC.

The entire 2021 PLL season will be viewable on the NBCU family of networks, with all games available to stream live and on-demand on Peacock. The 2021 season will feature more than half of its games on NBC and NBCSN, with a full broadcast schedule to be announced at a later date.

RACING, from page 7

the victory.

King was second, followed by Dore, Belsito and Derek Gluchacki. Tyler Tomassi was sixth, while Gabe Brown, Beaulieu, O’Connell and Kevin Casper finished the top-10.

The Granite State Pro Stock Series returns to the track on Sunday, May 30, as part of a Memorial Day weekend special at Claremont Motorsports Park. For more information on the Granite

State Pro Stock Series, visit gspss.net and follow the series on social media.

The Finish:

Bryan Kruczek	Kevin Casper
Josh King	Bobby Cabral
Jacob Dore	Bill Helliwell
Angelo Belsito	Joey Pole
Derek Gluchacki	Bobby Pelland
Tyler Tomassi	TJ Bleau
Gabe Brown	Mike Mitchell
Evan Beaulieu	Luke Hinkley
Devin O’Connell	

VACCINE, from page 1

Exposition grounds.

Acting Mayor Terence Murphy is working with Tufts to dispatch the bus to various neighborhoods of need in Holyoke.

During the first four weeks of the tour, the bus will go to certain sites. The bus will then return within the time period needed for people to get second shots in order to keep those who get vaccinated by the traveling bus on pace to achieve full vaccinations. However, it is possible the bus will administer some of the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccines or the Pfizer vaccine, which has a three-week time period between shots. It will depend on the supplies available.

Those who receive first shots of a two-shot vaccine will receive appoint-

ment cards for when the bus returns to their neighborhood whether it is three or four weeks from the date of the first shots. According to the health recommendations, a person has to about six weeks from the first shot to receive the second shot and achieve full vaccinations.

Holyoke also continues to have pop-up clinics, and local pharmacies like CVS and Walgreens are also giving out shots. Stop & Shops with pharmacies have also been administering vaccines to waiting residents.

The vaccine bus also comes at a time now where children ages 12 to 15 are now eligible to begin getting the Pfizer vaccine.

The bus is also visiting neighborhoods in Chicopee, and Holyoke Medical Center is assisting the bus when it comes to the community.




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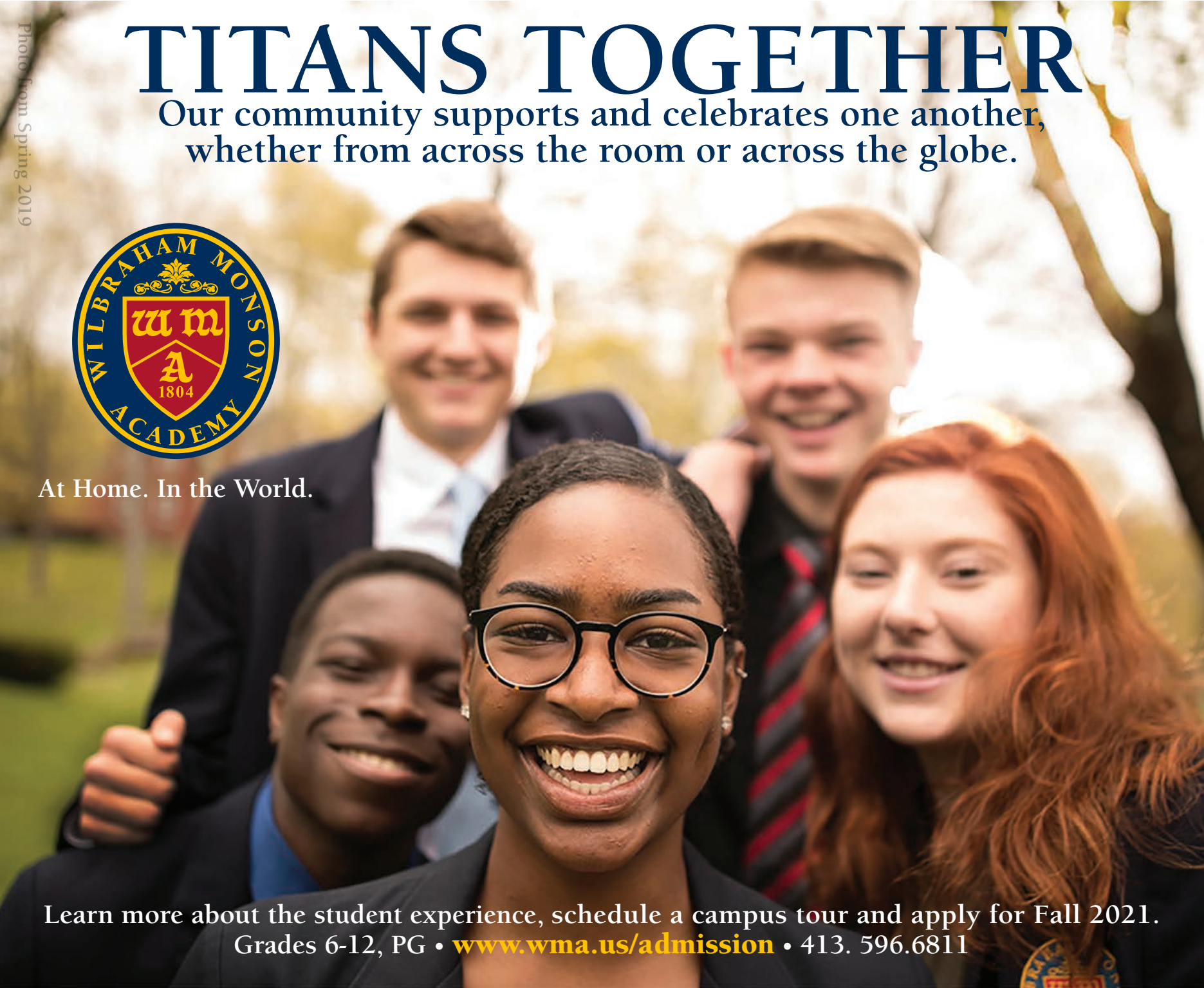
Photo from Spring 2019

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PIONEERS, from page 7

“The good thing about tonight’s match is that I had the opportunity to watch 20 players play prior to our first regular season match,” said Pioneer’s head coach Federico Molinari. “We do have a bunch of returning players and a couple of newcomers. We just want to be a competitive team again this year.”

Because of the COVID-19 protocols, no spectators could attend last Friday’s friendly match. The 2020 soccer season was also canceled due to the pandemic.

“It was very strange not playing any matches for the Pioneers last year, especially following a very successful 2019 season,” Viera said. “We really want to perform well this season and make the playoffs again.”

What makes attending matches at Lusitano Stadium so special for the Pioneers faithful supporters is the atmosphere.

“It reminds me a lot of that soccer clubs that I played for back in Uruguay,” Viera added. “The soccer fans here have a lot of passion for the sport. It’s one of the reasons why we have so many international players on our team. When they come here and it feels like home to them, which is very special.”

The Pioneers were scheduled to open the regular season with a road match against the Boston Bolts on Tuesday night. They’re also slated to play another road match against FC Malaga City, who’s a new team in the Northeast Division on Saturday night before hosting the Seacoast United Phantoms in the home opener on May 21.

The Pioneers officials are hoping a few fans will be allowed to attend the first home match of the regular season.

For more information about how to purchase tickets online please visit wmpioneers.com.

Another returning player this season is Blake Mullen, who’s the Pioneers starting goalkeeper. He allowed a total of seven goals during the 2019 regular season.

“Whenever you start a soccer team, you normally begin at the back (goalkeeper) and work forward,” said Viera, who’s also the girls’ varsity soccer coach at Ludlow High School. “Blake had an amazing season for us two years ago. It gives you a lot of confidence having a talented goalie like him back there. We’re hoping he has another great season this year.”

Mullen, of Manchester, Conn., played soccer at St. Joseph’s College in Maine. That’s where he first met Molinari.

“I was playing for a National Premiere Soccer League team in Maine and Federico found me,” Mullen said. “I tried out for the team and I was a backup goalie my first year playing here. It was a step up for me and I learned a lot that season. Federico is an outstanding coach. I’ve also learned a lot from Jon Voight, who’s our goalie coach.”

Mullen became the Pioneers starter in 2019 and he was the USL League Two Golden Glove winner that season.

“It’s a very special award to me, but I couldn’t have done it without the help of my defense,” he said. “We had a great defense, and it was a special season for us.”

The Pioneers only returning defender is Federico Gutierrez.

Mullen has enjoyed playing home matches at Lusitano Stadium.

“It’s awesome when all of the fans are here supporting us,” Mullen said. “It pushes us to play a little bit harder because whenever you do lose a game at this stadium, the fans are disappointed. The atmosphere is always great following a victory.”

Mullen was replaced by Robert Montanaro in the middle of the second half.

Another returning player is Connor Hicks, who lives in Monson.

“I was mainly a practice player in 2019, but I did get to play in a playoff game,” said Hicks, a member of the AIC men’s soccer team. “It was just an awesome experience for me.”

When Hicks was younger, he attended a lot of the Pioneers games at the



Chaney Nash Gibney gets the ball ready to fly. Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

stadium.

“I remember coming to the Pioneers games when they played on a grass field,” Hicks said. “It’s now a turf field, but it’s one of the best stadiums I’ve ever played soccer at. I really enjoy playing soccer for this team. I know that I’ll have to work very hard at practice to get some playing time this year.”

One of the Pioneers newcomers is Gabriel Ganzer, who is from Brazil and is living in Chicopee. He scored a goal and added an assist during the first half against Fall River.

Guillermo Deal, who’s a returning player, and newcomer Andrew Barrowman scored the Pioneers other two goals.



Connor Hicks, of Monson, plays for the Pioneers last Friday night.



Patrick Agymang dribbles toward the sideline.

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
34.5 KV PADMOUNTED
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION
TRANSFORMER

Sealed bids for the above named contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 p.m., June 2, 2021** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
cwong@hged.com
(413) 536-9308

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes “**34.5 kV Padmounted Electric Distribution Transformer**” and address them to:

James M. Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
05/14/2021

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
ELECTRIC UNDERGROUND
CABLE – 35KV 750MCM EPR
CU CONDUCTOR

Sealed bids for the above named contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:30 p.m.,**

June 2, 2021 at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk Street, Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
cwong@hged.com
(413) 536-9308

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes “**Electric Underground Cable – 35kV 750MCM EPR CU Conductor**” and address them to:

James M. Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
05/14/2021

Notice of Public Hearing

The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** to hear a Special Permit Application of Mass Cannabis Growers Cooperative, LLC for a Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment at 306 Race St (030-08-013) for a marijuana testing facility. Meeting will take place remotely and can be accessed via www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 883 4833 1186 Meeting Passcode: 250991 or by call in at 1 (646)558-8656 with the same Meeting ID and Passcode. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For information on these applications please contact City

Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at anderson-burgosj@holyoke.org or by phone at (413) 322-5525 Ordinance Chair

Rebecca Lisi
05/07, 05/14/2021

Notice of Public Hearing

The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** to hear a Special Permit Application of Mass Cannabis Growers Cooperative, LLC for a Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment at 11 Jackson St (027-01-004) for a cultivation facility. Meeting will take place remotely and can be accessed via www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 883 4833 1186 Meeting Passcode: 250991 or by call in at 1 (646)558-8656 with the same Meeting ID and Passcode. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For information on these applications please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at anderson-burgosj@holyoke.org or by phone at (413) 322-5525 Ordinance Chair

Rebecca Lisi
05/07, 05/14/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD20P1381PM
In the matter of: Linda Pelc
Of: Holyoke, MA
Protected Person/
Disabled Person/
Respondent
CITATION GIVING NOTICE

OF CONSERVATOR’S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **Temporary First and Final account(s) of Alison M Bartlett-O’Donald of Holyoke, MA** as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before **10:00 a.m. on the return date of 06/04/2021.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 07, 2021

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/14/2021

City of Holyoke
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(413)-322-5650

Real Estate for Sale (Land)

The City of Holyoke is seeking sealed offers for the following properties: 86 Beech Street, 525 Pleasant Street, 277 Main Street & 285 Main Street. Properties are being sold individually.

Proposals are due on **06/08/2021 at 2:00 PM** in which they will publicly opened and read.

Documents are available by email request at: belangerl@holyoke.org and or colond@holyoke.org.

The City of Holyoke reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals.

05/07, 05/14/2021

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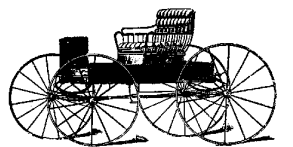
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5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
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Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____
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2 x 3 Black & White Graduation Ad

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Pay by check or credit card: Checks Payable to
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2 x 3 Advertisement

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Love Dad. Mom & John



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Wednesday, May 26th or Thursday, May 27th
12:00pm-1:30pm (lunch will be served)
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*Day Brook Village is COVID-19-free as of 4/30/21. As safety is our #1 priority, all in-person sessions will follow CDC and Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines. Number of guests will be limited to allow for proper social distancing. All in-person attendees must wear a mask while on campus. Additional information pertaining to our practices to maintain a safe environment for all guests will be provided upon registration.
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Learn more and complete the interest form at hged.com/ftth.

99 Suffolk St | Holyoke, MA 01040 | 413-536-9300 | hged.com



Donations are rolling in for the Wright Flight program.

Submitted photo

Donations collected to bring Wright Flight program to city

HOLYOKE – Throughout March and April, funds have been sought in the effort to bring the Northampton Airport Wright Flight program to Holyoke youth. We are very excited to announce that the funds have been raised.

Not only have we been able to raise the money, new partnerships were formed to achieve greater collaboration and impact. Vet Air is thrilled to be partnering with the Holyoke Public Schools and the Holyoke Boys and Girls Club to help our youth explore and cultivate interest in avia-

tion through the Northampton Airport Wright Flight curriculum. Northampton Airport Wright Flight is a volunteer organization based out of Northampton Airport in Northampton, MA. This is an Aviation STEM program designed to get youth interested in the world of aviation at an early age, by exploring the history and future of aviation, its global impact and the variety of careers in the aviation industry. Thanks to the generous donations of our community and new community partnerships, soon we will rollout a program in Holyoke that has the ability to change a life forever.

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